

**Minutes for the 68th Meeting of the Governing Body of National Water Development Agency,
held on 17.08.2021 through Video Conferencing**

The 68th meeting of the Governing Body of National Water Development Agency was held on 17.08.2021 through video conference under the Chairmanship of Shri Pankaj Kumar, Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, New Delhi. The list of participants who attended the meeting is given at Annexure - I.

At the outset, Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR, and Chairman, Governing Body of NWDA welcomed all participants in the meeting. In his opening remarks, he briefly apprised the members about agenda items and commented that NWDA has made significant progress in carrying various studies such as Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) and Feasibility Reports (FRs) of the links under National Perspective Plan, pre-feasibility reports and DPRs of identified intra-State links etc. He highlighted the significant event of signing of MoA for the implementation of Ken – Betwa link project on the occasion of World's Water Day i.e. 22nd March, 2021, by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh and Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources, Ministry of Jal Shakti in the august presence of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. He hoped that the implementation of ILR programme will gain momentum with the cooperation of States.

Then, he asked Director General, NWDA to take up the agenda items.

DG, NWDA also extended a warm welcome to the Chairman and all members / invitees of the Governing Body and gave a Power Point Presentation of the Agenda items. The discussions held on various agenda items and decisions taken during the meeting are as follows:

Item No.68.1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 67th Meeting of the Governing Body of NWDA held on 24.08.2020

The minutes of the 67th meeting of the Governing Body of National Water Development Agency (NWDA) held on 24.08.2020 were circulated to all the members vide letter dated 07.09.2020.

No comments have been received from any of the members on the Minutes of Meeting.

The minutes as circulated were confirmed by the Governing Body.

Item No.68.2: Follow up Action on the decisions taken in the earlier 67th Meeting of Governing Body of the NWDA Society held on 24.08.2020.

Details of the follow up action taken on the decisions of 67th meeting of the Governing Body as given in the Agenda notes, were noted by the Governing Body.

Item No.68.3: Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2019-20.

DG, NWDA informed that the Certification Audit has been carried out by the Principal Director of Audit (Agriculture, Food and Water Resources), New Delhi-110124 during the period from 17.08.2020 to 04.09.2020 and audit certificate was received on 08.06.2021. After completion of audit, the audited accounts, audit report along with the audit certificate and replies of NWDA to the Audit Report have been included in the Annual Report for the year 2019-20 and are placed before the Governing Body for approval.

Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR and Chairman of the Governing Body asked DG, NWDA to explain the salient features of Annual Report and key observations of the audit reports to the members. DG, NWDA apprised all the members about the key observations of Audit report and replies of NWDA for the same.

Further, Joint Secretary& FA (MoJS) stressed on certain observations of audit regarding NWDA's Audited Accounts as under:-

- (i) Unspent balance should be posted as liability.
- (ii) Accrued interest may be taken into account which is not being followed.
- (iii) Internal Audit of all the field offices of NWDA need to be conducted on regular basis.
- (iv) Physical verification of all the offices need to be done on annual basis.
- (v) Age-wise details of loans and advances should be appended with the annual accounts etc.

JS&FA advised to follow the applicable procedure from the current financial year and suggested to rectify the shortcomings by taking into account the proper provisions of expenditures in the estimates. She suggested to frame a plan to conduct internal audits properly and also to conduct physical verification of assets.

The Chairman of the Governing Body asked DG, NWDA to take into account all the suggestions/ comments of JS & FA and carry out the internal audits on regular basis and incorporate the suggestions in the current year Audit Report.

Also, the Chairman suggested to expedite the audit certification and compilation of Annual Report for the year 2020-21 so that the next Governing Body meeting can be convened sometime in October / November, 2021 and Annual Report and Audited Accounts of NWDA for 2020-21 get approved by GB timely and can be placed in Winter Session of Parliament. The Principal Director of Audit may be requested accordingly to carry out audit certification by September, 2021.

DG, NWDA assured the GB that he has taken cognizance of all above and the suggestions and the issues raised will be addressed properly.

The Governing Body approved the Annual Report & Audited Accounts for the year 2019- 20.

Item No.68.4: Budget Estimate and Actual Expenditure during the financial year 2020-21 and Budget estimate and actual expenditure for the year 2021-22.

DG, NWDA informed that the budget estimate for the financial year 2020-21 was Rs. 88.00 crore. The revised budget estimate for the financial year 2020-21 was Rs. 74.54 crore. The actual expenditure incurred during the financial year 2020-21 was Rs. 68.79 crore. The budget estimate for the financial year 2021-22 is Rs 87.00 crore. The actual expenditure up to July, 2021 was Rs.21.95 crore.

Governing Body noted as above.

Item No.68.5: Programme of works for the year 2021-22

DG, NWDA presented briefly the works carried out during year 2020-21 and work plan for current year 2021-22.

He informed that NWDA has completed DPRs of 7 links under NPP and presently working on their post Detailed Project Report (DPR) activities. He also informed that the DPR of one link under NPP and two intra-State link is in progress and shall be completed by the end of this year. The works of DPRs of six more links have been initiated in this year and planned to be completed in two years.

He informed that six Feasibility Reports (FRs) were completed last year and the Feasibility Reports of remaining links are planned to be completed by March, 2022. DG, NWDA apprised that Pre-Feasibility Reports (PFRs) of 5 proposals are under progress viz; Nagavalli –

Rushikulya – Vamsadhara link project, Udanti and Khadago Reservoirs, Sharda – Gomti link project and Sharing of Kalisindh waters and are planned to be completed this year.

He also apprised about the status of integration of Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link with Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) and informed that the DPR for the integrated link will be taken up this year after reaching the consensus between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh States.

Regarding system studies of Mahanadi-Godavari link, he informed that the work is under progress at NIH, Roorkee and shall be completed this year. System studies of four more links are planned to be taken up this year; EoIs from the Institutes for the same have already been invited and are under examination. The revision of about 20 Water Balance Study Reports have also been included in the work plan for the current year.

The Governing Body noted the progress and work plan for the year 2021-22.

Item No.68.5.1: Priority links / Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) completed.

i) Ken – Betwa Link Project

DG, NWDA informed that most of the statutory clearances in respect of KBLP Phase-I and Phase-II have been obtained.

A tripartite Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for the implementation of the project jointly has been signed by the Hon'ble Union Minister for Jal Shakti and Hon'ble Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh on 22nd March, 2021 in the august presence of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

The PIB Memo for appraisal of link project has been circulated to various Ministries / Departments for views/comments on 20.05.2021. The PIB Memo has been further modified based on observations/suggestions of various Ministries / Departments and with the revised cost of project (Rs.44,605 crore as per price level of year 2020-21) has been submitted to the Ministry of Finance on 30.07.2021. Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) viz., Ken-Betwa Link Project Authority (KBLPA) is proposed to be formed for implementation of the project.

He cited that the critical issue in KBLP is obtaining Stage-II Forest Clearance. At this, Sh. S.N. Mishra, Additional Chief Secretary, WRD, Madhya Pradesh informed that they have sent proposal for relaxation of norms of equal compensatory land to Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) vide their letter dated 23.07.2021. It was informed that the

matter is being pursued by Ministry of Jal Shakti with MoEF&CC and a D.O. from Secretary (WR,RD&GR) has been sent on 06.08.2021 to Secretary, MoEF&CC.

The status was noted by Governing Body.

ii & iii) Damanganga-Pinjal and Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Projects: Present Status of DPRs

DG, NWDA apprised all the members about the latest status of Damanganga-Pinjal Link Project and Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Project which are twin links concerning Maharashtra and Gujarat. Damanganga-Pinjal Link Project benefits Maharashtra and Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Project benefits mainly Gujarat. The Detailed Project Reports of both links have been completed. The techno-economic clearance of Damanganga-Pinjal link has been obtained and techno-economic appraisal of Par-Tapi-Narmada Link Project is in advanced stage.

The matter of water sharing is being discussed at the highest levels of both the States and it is hoped that a consensus will be arrived soon between both the States on this matter. An MoA is necessary for pursuing and obtaining various clearances of both the link projects.

iv & v) Godavari (Inchampalli barrage) – Cauvery (Grand Anicut) link proposal and Cauvery- Vagai- Gundar link project

DG, NWDA informed that the DPR of the link has been completed and was circulated to the party States in April, 2021. Now efforts shall be made to build consensus amongst States and reach an understanding/agreement for the implementation of this link. Thereafter, further necessary action for seeking various clearances for the link project can be initiated.

Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala informed that they have not received the finalized DPR of the link and requested for the same so that they can provide their comments which was agreed by DG, NWDA.

Secretary, Irrigation, Govt. of Karnataka raised the issue that share of water of their State is not indicated in the DPR. Also, he raised certain apprehensions regarding Cauvery – Vagai-Gundar link project and informed that their Government has approached the Hon'ble Supreme Court for the construction started by Govt. of Tamil Nadu. He requested to consider these developments while proceeding further.

Additional Chief Secretary, PWD, Govt. of Tamil Nadu requested to consider the Pennar-Palar- Cauvery link at higher elevation to Kattalai in the DPR and also consider requirement of Cauvery-Vaigai-Gunder link in Phase-I , itself .

Govt. of Andhra Pradesh requested to consider their views related to water sharing as they have submitted earlier through their correspondence.

Representative from Govt. of Telangana requested to consider their views on draft DPR of Godavari-Cauvery link project. He also raised certain apprehensions regarding requirement of Kaleshwaram LIS considered in the report, submergence of Tupakulakudem project and water allocation to unified Andhra Pradesh in Godavari basin.

Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR requested DG, NWDA to note the issues raised by various States and suggested to have a meeting to discuss these issues specifically.

vi) Kosi – Mechi Intra-State Link Project

DG, NWDA informed that the DPR of Kosi – Mechi intra-State link project was completed and sent to Govt. of Bihar in March 2014. The techno-economic clearance was accorded in July 2016 and investment clearance has also been accorded 20.10.2020. Govt. of Bihar has been requested to take up the implementation of the project. NWDA shall provide requisite support to the State in the implementation of the link project.

The status of priority links and other important links was noted by Governing Body.

Item No.68.5.2: Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) in Progress

i) Bedti – Varada link (IBWT)

Government of Karnataka requested NWDA to prepare the Detailed Project Report (DPR) of Bedti – Varada link. Accordingly, NWDA has initiated the work for preparation of DPR of Bedti – Varada link.DG, NWDA informed that the DPR of this link is under finalisation.

ii) Damanganga (Ekdare) – Godavari Intra-State Link

The preparation of DPR of Damanganga (Ekdare) – Godavari intra-State link of Maharashtra is in progress and targeted to be completed by September, 2021.

iii) Damanganga – Vaitarna – Godavari Intra-State Link

The preparation of DPR of Damanganga – Vaitarna – Godavari intra-State link of Maharashtra is in progress and targeted to be completed by September, 2021.

iv) Integration of Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project with Parbati – Kalisindh – Chambal link

DG, NWDA informed that the NWDA will take up the preparation of DPR of the modified PKC link integrated with ERCP when the consensus between Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh on water sharing/exchange is reached, for which consorted efforts are being made at various levels.

v) Cauvery (Kattalai) –Vaigai – Gundar link (IBWT)

DG, NWDA informed that the DPR of the link project has been finalised and circulated to party States in August 2020.

The status was noted by Governing Body.

Item No. 68.6.2: Status of Intra-State link proposals

DG, NWDA informed that NWDA so far has received 49 proposals of intra-State links from various States. The Pre-feasibility Reports (PFRs) of 37 intra-State links have been completed. The DPR of 4 intra-State links viz. Burhi Gandak – Noon – Baya – Ganga and Kosi – Mechi links of Bihar, Ponnaiyar – Palar link of Tamil Nadu and Wainganga – Nalganga link of Maharashtra have been completed and sent to the concerned State Governments. The work of preparation of DPRs of Damanganga (Ekdare) – Godavari link and Damanganga – Vaitarna – Godavari link of Maharashtra is in progress. The pre-feasibility reports of Nagavalli – Vamsadhara – Rushikulya and Sharda – Gomti links are in progress.

The Governing Body noted the information as above.

Item No.68.7: Utilization of over head charges of consultancy fee received by NWDA

DG, NWDA informed that the work of DPRs of the two projects viz; Damanganga (Val/Vagh) – Vaitarna – Godavari (Kadva Dev) and Damanganga (Ekdare) – Godavari in Maharashtra is being carried out by NWDA on consultancy basis with an estimated cost of Rs.40.88 cr including overhead charges. NWDA has already received Rs.16.36 cr. (40% of the cost of the works) from Govt. of Maharashtra for consultancy work. The work is likely to be completed this year. Major part of the consultancy fee received shall be utilized for works of DPRs so as to seek lesser grant from Ministry to that extent. It is proposed to utilize 25 % of the overhead charges of consultancy fee for creating infrastructural facilities in NWDA and balance amount shall be kept in fixed deposits/Govt. Securities. The interest earned from the deposit is proposed to be utilized for extending welfare to the employees. So far overhead amount of Rs 8.83 cr has been earned from the consultancy works being carried out by NWDA.

One of the welfare measures proposed is bearing the part cost of the medical insurance to the willing retired employees and their spouse as detailed in Agenda Notes. On a query from Chairman, GB, Smt. Yatinder Prasad, JS&FA conveyed her willingness to examine the proposal once it is submitted to Ministry.

Governing Body accorded in principle approval for the proposal and submitting the proposal to the ministry for consideration.

Item No.68.8: National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA)

DG, NWDA informed about the latest status of Draft Cabinet Note and draft bill for constitution of setting up of National Interlinking of Rivers Authority (NIRA) as given in Agenda. He informed that matter is under consideration in the ministry and legal opinion has been sought from the Ministry of Law and Justice. At this juncture, representatives from Government of Kerala and Tamil Nadu requested for providing the copy of Draft Bill to them. DG, NWDA assured that once the Draft Bill/Cabinet Note is ready, it will be shared with the State Governments for their opinions / views.

Item No.68.9&68.10: Special Committee for “Interlinking of Rivers” and Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers

DG, NWDA apprised all the members about the progress of works of Special Committee for “Interlinking of Rivers” and Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers. Eighteen (18) meetings of the Special Committee for Interlinking of Rivers have been held so far and the last meeting was

held on 07.12.2020. Thirteen meetings of the Task Force have been held so far and the last meeting was held on 25.02.2021.

The members of the Governing Body noted the information.

Item No.68.11: Items for information of Governing Body: NABARD Funding under PMKSY – AIBP.

DG, NWDA informed that NWDA has been identified to act as an agency for borrowing resources from LTIF and release Central Assistance to the State Governments towards the prioritized PMKSY-AIBP (Major & Medium Irrigation) Projects and their CADWM works, for their completion in time bound manner. He informed that a statement showing detail of Funds of PMKSY disbursed to different States, Polavaram Project and North Koel Project and payment made to NABARD during 2018-19, 2019-20 & 2020-21 is given in agenda.

Members of the Governing Body noted the information.

Item No.68.12: Regulation of remuneration in case of contract appointment of retired Central Government Employees in NWDA

DG, NWDA informed that on the basis of Ministry of Finance's OM dated 9th December 2020, the existing guidelines for engagement of consultants in NWDA were examined by a Committee under the Chief Engineer (HQ) on 22.02.2021 at par. The committee recommended to adopt the remuneration guidelines as per above OM of Ministry of Finance. The Committee also suggested few minor modifications in the eligibility criteria for Consultant-II, III and Finance Assistant as proposed in Agenda.

The recommendations of the Committee as above were accepted by Governing Body.

Item No.68.13: Amendment to the DCRG Rules, 2012 applicable to the employees of NWDA

DG, NWDA informed that based on the advice of the Ministry of Jal Shakti, a draft amendment to the NWDA DCRG Rules, 2012 was prepared and the same was sent to the Ministry for vetting vide letter dated 30.03.2021.

The Ministry has vetted the draft amendment to the NWDA, DCRG Rules, 2012 with certain modifications and requested to take necessary action to adopt these amendments with the approval of Chairman, Governing Body, NWDA at the earliest.

The Governing Body ratified the amendment.

Item No.68.14 : Recruitment, promotion, superannuation, resignation and officers/officials expired from the service of NWDA (01.04.2020 to 31.03.2021)

DG, NWDA gave a brief information about number of new recruitments, promotions, superannuation, voluntary retirements etc in NWDA.

The Governing Body noted the information.

Item No. 68.15: Organization of 7th India Water Week 2021

DG, NWDA informed that the 7th India Water Week 2021 was proposed to be organized during 16th to 20th November, 2021. Due to Covid pandemic, it has been decided to postpone the event to later part of year, 2022.

The members noted the information.

Item No.68.16: Organisation of BRICS Water Ministers Meeting

During the 11th BRICS Summit held under Brazil's Chairship on 13-14, November 2019 in Brazil, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India proposed to hold the first meeting of BRICS Water Ministers in India. Subsequently, Ministry of Jal Shakti has nominated the National Water Development Agency with the responsibility of organizing the first meeting of BRICS Water Ministers in India in association with Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation. As deliberated with MEA officials, the BRICS Water Forum and BRICS Water Ministers Meet are proposed to be held by virtual mode during 16th -18th November 2021 at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi.

The members noted the information.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure-I

List of Members and Participants who attended the 68th Meeting of Governing Body of NWDA held on 17th August, 2021 through Video Conferencing

1.	Shri Pankaj Kumar, Secretary, DoWR, RD and GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti	Chairman
2.	Shri S.K.Haldar, Chairman, Central Water Commission	Member
3.	Dr. P.Nandakumaran Chairman, Central Ground Water Board	Member
4.	Smt. Debashree Mukherjee, Additional Secretary, DoWR,RD&GR,	Member
5.	Shri R.K.Gupta, Member, (D&R), CWC	Member
6.	Shri R.A.S.Patel, Deputy Commissioner (RFS), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt of India.	Representing Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
7.	Shri. Sanjay Awasthi, JS&PP, DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti	Member
8.	Shri Subodh Yadav, Joint Secretary (Admn.), DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti	Member
9.	Shri Sandeep Saxena, Additional Chief Secretary, Public Works, Govt of Tamil Nadu, Chennai	Member
10.	Shri T. K. Jose, Additional Chief Secretary, WRD, Government of Kerala	Member
11.	Shri N. Lakshmanrao Peshve, KES, Secretary, WRD, Govt of Karnataka	Member
12.	Shri S. N. Mishra, Additional Chief Secretary, WRD, Government of Madhya Pradesh	Member
13.	Shri Rakesh Chauhan, Engineer-in-Chief, Water Resources Department, Govt of Haryana	Member
14.	Shri J.Syamala Rao, Secretary, WRD, Govt of Andhra Pradesh	Member
15.	Shri Vikrant Raja, Secretary, PWD, Govt of Puducherry,	Member
16.	Jaideep Singh Bawa, Chief Engineer, Central Electricity Authority, Govt of India	Representing Chairperson, CEA
17.	Shri A.S.Goel, Commissioner (SPR), Ministry of JalShakti	Member

18.	Shri Nageshwar Mishra, Engineer-in-Chief, WRD, Jharkhand	Representing Principal Secretary, WRD, Jharkhand
19.	Sh. Amit, Joint Secretary, Irrigation Department, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh alongwith Sh.Gopal Singh, Chief Engineer and Sh. Dilip Kumar Chaturvedi, Superintending Engineer	Representing Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh
20.	Shri Raveendra Kumar Sankar, Engineer-in-Chief (HQ), Government of Bihar	Representing Principal Secretary, Water Resources, Government of Bihar
21.	Shri D.K.Samal, Engineer in Chief, P&D, Government of Odisha	Representing Principal Secretary, Water Resources, Govt of Odisha
22.	Shri Sanjeev Gupta, Chief Engineer, WRD, Govt of Punjab	Representing Principal Secretary, WR, Govt of Punjab
23.	Shri V.Mohan Kumar, Chief Engineer (ISW), Govt of Telangana	Representing Secretary, Water Resources, Govt of Telangana
24.	Shri R.K.Nagariya, Chief Engineer, WRD, Govt of Chhattisgarh	Representing Secretary, WR, Govt of Chhattisgarh
25.	Dr. Sanjay Kumar Department of Science & Technology, Govt of India	Representing Secretary, Ministry of Science & Technology
26.	Smt. Hemlata Bharwani, Scientist 'F', India Meteorological Department, Govt of India	Representing Director General, IMD
27.	Shri M. R.Patel, Chief Engineer & Addl. Secretary, Govt. of Gujarat.	Representing Secretary, WRD, Gujarat
28.	Shri Ravi Solanki, Addl. Chief Engineer, WRD, Govt. of Rajasthan	Representing Secretary, WRD, Rajasthan
29.	Shri Bhopal Singh, Director General, NWDA, New Delhi	Member-Secretary
Special Invitee		
30.	Ms. Yatinder Prasad, JS&FA, DoWR, RD and GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti	Special Invitee
Officers from Central/State Governments		
31.	Sh. R.R.Shukla, Joint Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Maharashtra	Representing Principal Secretary, WRD, Govt. of Maharashtra
32.	Shri Bijaya Kumar Mishra, Engineer-in-Chief (Planning & design), Govt of Odisha, Bhubaneshwar	
33.	Shri C. Narayana Reddy, Engineer-in-Chief (ISW) Govt. of Andhra Pradesh	
34.	Shri Rakesh Kumar, SJC (BM), DoWR, RD & GR,	

	Ministry of Jal shakti	
35.	Shri Vivek Pal, SJC(PP), DoWR,RD&GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti	
NWDA OFFICERS		
36.	Shri R.K. Jain, Chief Engineer (HQ)	NWDA, New Delhi
37.	Dr. R. N.Sankhua, Chief Engineer (S)	NWDA, Hyderabad
38.	Shri Shiva Prakash, Chief Engineer (N)	NWDA, Lucknow
39.	Shri D.K.Sharma, Director (Tech)	NWDA, New Delhi
40.	Mrs. Jancy Vijayan, Director (MDU)	NWDA, New Delhi
41.	Shri Chirabrata Sarkar, Director (Admn.)	NWDA, New Delhi
42.	Shri Subrata Halder, Director (Finance)	NWDA, New Delhi
43.	Shri S.R.Mahor, Superintending Engineer (S)	NWDA, New Delhi
44.	Shri S.C.Awasthi, Superintending Engineer (N)	NWDA, New Delhi
45.	Shri B.L.Sharma, Superintending Engineer	NWDA, Gwalior
46.	Shri K. K. Shrivastava, Superintending Engineer	NWDA, Patna
47.	Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Superintending Engineer	NWDA, Bhubaneswar
48.	Shri N. S. R. K. Reddy, Superintending Engineer	NWDA, Hyderabad
49.	Shri Rajesh Kumar, Deputy Director (Admn.)	NWDA, New Delhi
50.	Shri K.K. Rao, Assistant Engineer	NWDA, New Delhi
51.	Smt. Deepika Sharma, Assistant Engineer	NWDA, New Delhi
52.	Shri Subham Agrawal, Assistant Engineer	NWDA, New Delhi